

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

December 31, 2002

BOX PCT
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: PCT Application No. PCT/US02/00944
for: **VARIABLE RATE SPEECH DATA COMPRESSION**
Inventor: Sandra E. Hutchins
Assignee: Telecompression Technologies, Inc.
Authorized Officer: Richemond Dorvil
Our File No. 05313.P002PCT

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(NE)

RESPONSE TO WRITTEN OPINION FROM IPEA/US

Dear Commissioner:

In connection with the Written Opinion mailed December 3, 2002 from the International Preliminary Examining Authority regarding the above-referenced application, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following amendments and remarks below.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Technology Center 2600

Applicant submits replacement pages 41-47, which include the following claim amendments listed below (in marked-up form):

1. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:
an epoch locator coupled to a frame assembly,
a primary epoch analyzer coupled to the epoch locator, and
a secondary epoch analyzer coupled to the primary epoch locator,
wherein an encoder, the encoder to compresses a plurality of signals at variable
frame rates based on a plurality of prioritized parameters to dynamically reduce
signal bandwidth while preserving perceptual signal quality.